

OVID TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

OVID TOWNSHIP OFFICE, BRANCH COUNTY, MICHIGAN

July 6, 2021

PUBLIC HEARING

The Ovid Township Planning Commission Public Hearing was called to order by Andy AcMoody at 6:00p.m.

Members present: Andy AcMoody, Chris Donbrock, Sean Groves, Jim Snivley, Tammi Schorfhaar

Chris Donbrock made a motion to accept the Agenda as presented; seconded by Sean Groves; motion carried.

Others present: Max Benjamin, Judy and Doug Bonnell, Ted Hurley (J&K), Bud Norman, Matt Ashenfelter, Chris Khorey, Kyle Mucha, Rege Rupp

The item that was brought forth was a Special Land Use (SLU) request for a wireless communications tower at 519 Otis Road. Bud Norman, Branch County Administrator, said that the County had looked at approximately 16 different sites in Ovid Township for the new tower. The location on Otis Road is on higher ground and therefore offers better coverage. Branch County purchased this entire parcel of property from the Coldwater School District. There are four other towers being placed in various areas throughout Branch County. These five towers will provide excellent coverage for the entire County as the old communication system was challenging to repair. The property was purchased on June 11, 2021 and the County immediately began maintaining it. The County has been approached by several people about possible other uses for the remainder of the property. They are currently using it for training purposes for Emergency Services. Bud does not think they are going to do anything with the rest of the property until possibly 2022.

Public comment: Max Benjamin asked about the distance between the towers throughout the County.

Chris Donbrock made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Sean Groves; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:11p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tammi Schorfhaar, secretary.